

Fulbright *highlights*

B O A R D B U S I N E S S

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Board elected Steven J. Uhlfelder of Tallahassee, Florida, for a second one-year term as Chair. Dr. Richard Brodhead, President of Duke University, was re-elected by the Board to serve as Vice Chair for a second one-year term.

BOARD MEETINGS

August 2004

The Board convened its quarterly meeting with a discussion with four Iraqi Fulbrighters. They included a journalist at American University and three Fulbrighters who were pursuing Masters degrees in public health at Johns Hopkins University. Board members felt it was particularly valuable to have an opportunity to hear these Fulbrighters' perspectives on the program, on the reasons why they applied for a Fulbright grant, and on what they hoped to accomplish with the education they had received in the United States once they returned to Iraq. In-depth reports on the European and African areas followed as well as a special session by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and the Council for International Exchange of Scholars on the Fulbright Senior Specialist Program.

November 2004

The Board's November meeting highlighted the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program. Fulbright alumni met with the Board for a dinner on Capitol Hill. The Board's guests at the dinner were current participants Dr. Nigel Brown of the United Kingdom and Ms. Grit Worreschke of Germany and two alumni of the Program: Ms. Adrienne White, a public high school teacher in Washington, DC who had spent her Fulbright year in Senegal; and Pennsylvania teacher Mr. Dana Ramey who went to Mexico with the Program. The Board was particularly pleased to hear from the alumni about the lasting effect their exchanges had on themselves, on their families and on their students both in the United States and abroad. The meeting continued with a special session on the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program. Then Assistant Secretary of State Patricia S. Harrison also met with the Board and discussed the Bureau's initiative to create a dynamic alumni network for the Fulbright Program and for all of the Bureau's exchange programs. Representatives from AMIDEAST (America-Mideast Educational and Training Services, Inc.) and LASPAU (Academic and Professional Programs for the Americas) briefed the Board on their Fulbright activities as well.



February 2005

February's meeting featured two Fulbright Commission Executive Directors—Maria Jesus Pablos of Spain and Carol Madison Graham of the United Kingdom. The Assistant Secretary of State and Deputy Assistant Secretary Thomas Farrell briefed the Board on Fulbright activities. Of special interest were sessions on tsunami relief activities undertaken by current Fulbrighters and by alumni of the Program.

One of the highlights of the February meeting was the reception at the residence of the British Ambassador to celebrate the launching of the Fulbright-Alistair Cooke Award. The Award was named for Alistair Cooke because of his role, for many years, as the cultural interpreter of the two countries through the medium of journalism. Initially the award is for a graduate student to pursue a Masters in Journalism in the United States. The U.S.-U.K. Fulbright Commission hopes that eventually there will be four Fulbright-Alistair Cooke Awards—two post graduate awards, one each for a young American and British journalist or future journalist for Masters studies and two fellowships, one each for mid-career/senior figures in the media.

April 2005

Baruch College of the City University of New York was the host for the Board meeting in April. This gave the Board members the opportunity to meet many of the Visiting Fulbright Students who had assembled in New York City for an Enrichment Seminar organized by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and the Institute of International Education. Board Chair Steven J. Uhlfelder spoke to the students at the opening dinner for the seminar and other Board members who also attended the dinner had an opportunity to talk with the students at their tables. After a meeting at IIE with program officers who work with the Fulbright Program, Visiting Fulbright Students, one Fulbright Scholar and one American alumnus of the Program met with the Board at Baruch College to discuss their own experiences with the Program. Following the panel discussion, Baruch President Kathleen Waldron, herself an alumna of the Fulbright Program, hosted a lunch for Baruch faculty alumni of the Program and for the Board.



Photo Credit: Barry Fitzgerald, Department of State

top: FSB Quarterly Meeting, November 2004. The Members from left to right are: John Sibley Butler, Jan O'Neill, Robert Woodson, Rita DiMartino, (FSB Staff Monica Butler, Lesley Moore Vossen and Pat Schaefer) Steven Uhlfelder, Richard Brodhead, John Johnson, Donald Vermeil, Ronald Spogli, Shirley Green and Thomas Lyons; the presenter is Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Thomas Farrell. bottom left: (front row) FSB members Donald Vermeil, Shirley Green, and Thomas Lyons, Deputy Assistant Secretary Thomas Farrell, (back row) Hourig Messerlian of CUNY, Mary Kirk of IIE, Prof. Cynthia Whittaker of Baruch, FSB Chair Steven Uhlfelder, Prof. Edwin Hollander of Baruch, Baruch College President Kathleen Waldron, Baruch Associate Provost Dennis Slavin, FSB Executive Director Pat Schaefer. bottom right: (front row) Board member Thomas Lyons, Fulbrighters Frances Sinanu of Indonesia, Patterson Ekeocha of Nigeria, Sao Loong Yin of Malaysia and Anne Tanyi-Tang of Cameroon, Board member Rita DiMartino, Fulbrighters Rodrigo Flores Lopez of Mexico, Christoph Suttman of Germany, and John Rapaglia of the United States. (top row) FSB Executive Director Pat Schaefer, FSB member Shirley Green, Deputy Assistant Secretary Thomas Farrell, FSB Chair Steven Uhlfelder, FSB members Robert Woodson and Donald Vermeil, IIE Vice President Mary Kirk.

At its quarterly meetings in Washington, DC in 2004 and continuing in 2005, the Board placed new emphasis on close communications with the Department and its staff. The Board included meetings with the staff of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs' regional and global program branches; members often met with staff in their offices. The meetings gave the members and staff an opportunity to focus on issues of concern to the Board, such as the importance of weighing FSB policies and priorities in the review and nomination of candidates to the FSB selection committees. They also enabled the Bureau staff to brief the Board on developments in the regions, to relay program news, and to respond to questions or concerns that Board members had noted while evaluating applications.

BOARD ACTIVITIES

The Board issued a letter to those involved with the Fulbright Program, setting forth core principles of the Program, along with priorities, such as diversity and community service which the Board considers of paramount importance. The principles and priorities are reproduced below:

The core principles of the Fulbright Program, which have existed since its inception, are: binationalism; bilateral support; open competition based on merit principles and binational priorities; transparency of the selection process; and emphasis on choosing those with leadership potential from a variety of fields who demonstrate commitment to advancing mutual understanding.

This current Board's priorities for the Fulbright Program include:

- To actively recruit U.S. and foreign students and scholars from a diverse pool of applicants representing economic, cultural, and geographic diversity. This may involve moving out of capital cities to recruit in provincial and rural areas;
- To reach new audiences (giving preference to applicants who have had no significant study or educational opportunity in the partner countries or who have not previously received a Fulbright grant);
- To enhance mutual understanding by encouraging community involvement and participation in host communities by grantees (i.e., finding ways to ensure that grantees participate in community activities, that opportunities are suggested to them for community service, and that aspiring Fulbrighters know that their grants are for a broader engagement than research or study);
- To develop a systematic approach for program planning and information exchange between the Board, the Bureau, and commissions and posts that ensures mutual understanding about priority binational issues;
- To ensure that all participants in the Fulbright Program, in both partner countries—scholars, students, and teachers—are aware of the distinguished history of the program, its core values, and the role of the FSB; all publications about the Program should include information about the program's genesis and Senator Fulbright's role in Congress shaping the initial legislation;
- To encourage commissions and cooperating agencies to develop strategies to increase contacts among Fulbright grantees, as part of the exchange experience;
- To encourage Fulbrighters—past, present, and future—to maintain contact with other Fulbright grantees, through Fulbright alumni associations, college campus organizations, commissions, posts, and other associations;
- To reemphasize partner government contributions.

left: U.S. Fulbright Student Lisa Peschel with FSB Chair Steven Uhlfelder at the cemetery in Terezin in the Czech Republic.
middle: Board member Shirley Green addresses the Fulbright Commission Executive Directors' Conference in Sofia, Bulgaria.
far right: The 25th Conference of Fulbright Commission Executive Directors from Europe in Sofia, Bulgaria.



BOARD TRAVEL

In Spring 2005, Chair Steven Uhlfelder visited the Fulbright Programs in Russia, Hungary and the Czech Republic. He met with government and program officials and many Fulbrighters. While in Moscow in May, the Chair participated in the U.S. Embassy's 2005 U.S.-Russia Exchanges Symposium, which drew more than 450 American and Russian participants. The two-day event was hosted by the Embassy's Public Affairs Section, with the support of the Russian Ministry of Education and Science. The Symposium included panel sessions on ways to increase the effectiveness of existing exchanges, as well as on new opportunities for involving non-governmental organizations and corporate partners in a wide variety of exchange programs. FSB Chair Uhlfelder focused his remarks on the U.S. concept of community service and the unique ways exchange participants can enrich their experience through outreach to the larger host community through such service, with a focus on the legacy of the Fulbright Program. An "exchanges fair" and a reception hosted by U.S. Ambassador Alexander Vershbow provided participants the opportunity to discuss specific ideas and continue networking. The Symposium, which was the largest networking event for U.S. and Russian institutions involved in educational and people-to-people exchanges, enabled participants to make new contacts, obtain new information, and learn about new ideas for exchanges.

Board Member Shirley Green and the Board's Executive Director Pat Kern Schaefer participated in the 25th conference of Fulbright Commission

Executive Directors from Europe in Sofia, Bulgaria, in April 2005. Green was a featured speaker at the plenary session. She extended greetings on behalf of the Board and spoke to some of its core priorities. Green emphasized the need for Fulbright to reach new and wider audiences, to recruit more broadly and to engage new audiences. She urged the Fulbright Executive Directors to engage more diverse segments of the populations of their respective countries. She also spoke of the value of extending the impact of the Fulbright experience by encouraging exchange participants to reach beyond their immediate assignments. Green noted how highly the Board values community interaction and volunteer service.

In June 2004, Board member Dr. John Butler visited Japan for his annual teaching session at Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo. He visited the Japan United States Educational Commission (JUSEC) and participated in the Secretariat's regular monthly staff meeting. Dr. Butler provided an update on current issues being considered by the FSB and the State Department, as well as his involvement as a member of the FSB. He spoke about his professional activities promoting support for entrepreneurial ventures from the academic world. Dr. Butler visited the Fulbright Alumni Association where he met with key Japanese Fulbright Alumni and learned about the Association's various activities and the successful fundraising efforts carried out in Japan. He also met with current U.S. Fulbrighters in Japan to hear about their experiences. The visit concluded with a lunch meeting hosted by JUSEC's Executive Director David Satterwhite.



The Fulbright Association held its first meeting outside the United States. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Thomas Farrell, FSB Executive Director Pat Kern Schaefer, and Senior Program Officer David Levin, who serves as ECA's liaison with the Fulbright Association, participated in the 27th Annual Conference of the Fulbright (Alumni) Association in Athens, Greece. FSB Chair Steven J. Uhlfelder had planned to attend as well; however, his travel was precluded by the emergency situation in his home state of Florida, occasioned by several hurricanes that struck there just before the meeting. DAS Farrell was the featured speaker at the opening luncheon. Farrell's address set the tone for the meeting and expressed the appreciation of the State Department and the FSB for the work of the Fulbright Association, anticipating an expanded role for the FA in the future, and underscoring the Administration's support of the Fulbright Program through its budget as well as the distinguished appointments the President has made to the FSB. FSB Executive Director Schaefer moderated the plenary session on "Europe and Transatlantic Relations beyond May 2004." Department of State Program Officer David Levin gave a presentation at the International Education Task Force meeting on "Fulbright IOI." (See page 20).

The FSB Executive Director and Deputy Director participated in the 2004 annual conference of NAFSA: Association of International Educators, which was held in Baltimore, Maryland. More than six thousand individuals attended, including Fulbright Commission Executive Directors from a

number of countries. Prior to the event opening in Baltimore, ECA held a meeting in Washington, DC, of the Executive Directors who had gathered for the occasion. Pat Schaefer and State Department legal counsel Damir Arnaut conducted a panel for them on the recently amended FSB Policies.

BOARD MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Following the disastrous hurricanes that swept Florida in 2004, Governor Jeb Bush asked FSB Chair Steven Uhlfelder to volunteer to serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the Florida Hurricane Relief Fund.

The Vice Chair of the Board, Richard Brodhead, who had been the Dean of Yale College, was formally installed as the ninth President of Duke University at ceremonies held there in September of 2004.

BOARD WEB SITE

Some of the Board's publications are now available from the Board's web site: the *Policies of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board*, as well as previous Annual Reports of the Board dating back to 2001. The Board's web site is: <http://www.exchanges.state.gov/education/fulbright/ffsb/>

FULBRIGHT NEWS AND SPECIAL EVENTS



top: Then Secretary of State Colin L. Powell receives congratulations from Fulbright Association President R. Fenton-May at a ceremony held at the State Department. bottom: FSB Chair Steven J. Uhlfelder; FSB Executive Director Pat Schaefer; Director, Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education Leonard Haynes III; and Ewell E. 'Pat' Murphy, the Vice President of the Fulbright Association and former Chair of the FSB.

FULBRIGHT ASSOCIATION

Then Secretary of State Colin L. Powell received the 2004 Fulbright Prize for International Understanding on December 15, 2004. R. Fenton-May, President of the Fulbright Association, presented the award. In accepting the award, the Secretary said, *"I accept it on behalf of all of the men and women of the State Department, who today are...serving on the frontlines of freedom through diplomacy to create better understanding between people to do their part to make sure that we don't have wars because we have found ways to achieve peace.... I'm deeply honored to receive this award in the name of the men and women that I have been privileged to lead here at the Department of State."*

In May 2005, the Fulbright Association awarded the Fulbright Lifetime Achievement Medal to alumni Rita E. Hauser, John Mendelsohn, and Hilda Ochoa-Brillembourg.

STUDENT ENRICHMENT SEMINARS

During Spring 2005, the Office of Academic Programs of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) sponsored a series of Fulbright Foreign Student Enrichment Seminars in Tempe, New Orleans, San Francisco, Chicago, Boulder, Washington, DC and New York. Each seminar focused on a different theme, ranging from protecting natural resources to gender issues to immigration issues, with an emphasis on leadership development. These seminars are held annually and administered by the Institute of International Education. The Fulbright Board attended the dinner opening the New York City seminar. (*See the Board Business section of this report.*) The Washington, DC seminar included 140 Fulbright Students from 75 countries and 10 U.S. alumni, joined by experts who focused on "Challenges and Choices for the 109th Congress." Conference highlights included a luncheon with Department of State staff, an evening of home hospitality with local area residents including ECA staff, a trip to Capitol Hill, a press event at the Foreign Press Center led by Deputy Assistant Secretary Thomas Farrell, and visits to Washington metropolitan area high schools, where groups of Fulbrighters presented their cultures to classrooms of enthusiastic American high school students. The conference received significant media coverage from U.S. and foreign press agencies.

Board member Thomas Lyons talks with two students during the opening dinner of the Student Enrichment Seminar held for Visiting Fulbright Students in New York in April 2005.





left: As part of the Fulbright Scholar Enrichment Seminar, Research Scholar George Kambou from Burkina Faso prepares a nutritious meal at Martha's Table, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping low income and homeless children, families, and individuals.



right: U.S. Ambassador to Chile Craig A. Kelly cuts the cake for the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Fulbright Commission in Chile. Jaime Arellano, the President of the Chilean Fulbright Commission Board of Directors, is on the far left.

SCHOLAR ENRICHMENT SEMINARS

One hundred and ten visiting Fulbright Scholars from around the country convened at the annual Fulbright enrichment seminars in Washington, DC, and Chicago in April, to discuss aspects of civic engagement in the United States, including political activism, volunteerism, and philanthropy. The Fulbrighters combined theory with practice, volunteering for a morning with Habitat for Humanity, Martha's Table and the Chinese Culture and Language Program. Scholars participating in the Chicago program engaged in volunteer activities at the Chicago Parks Service, the Salvation Army, and the Lawson House YMCA.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

As part of the observance of International Education Week (IEW) in November 2004, the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs held an 'Exchanges Fair' at the State Department's headquarters. IEW celebrates the benefits of international education and exchanges worldwide. The FSB participated at the fair with a booth featuring the work of the Board.

Another highlight of IEW was the Humphrey Fellowship Program's Diplomatic Reception at which then Secretary of State Colin Powell made comments honoring the Fellows' contributions to international understanding.

U.S.-CHILE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Fulbright Chile began in June 2004 with a gala dinner at the residence of former U.S. Ambassador to Chile William Brownfield. A year of festivities culminated with a reception in March 2005 hosted by Fulbright Co-Honorary Board Presidents, current U.S. Ambassador to Chile Craig A. Kelly, Chilean Ambassador to the U.S. Andres Bianchi, and Minister of Foreign Affairs Ignacio Walker.

Among the 350 honored guests were alumni of the program including Chilean writer Enrique Lafourcade; painter Benjamin Lira; photographer Paz Errázuriz; actress Alicia Quiroga; architect Nicolás Loi; Mayor of Peñalolén and former Fulbright Board President Claudio Orrego; and President of Banco del Estado Javier Etcheberry. Also in attendance were rectors and professors from universities, former and present ambassadors, and current grantees. Fulbright Board of Directors President Jaime Arellano, who is an alumnus of the Program, reflected on his personal experience as a Fulbrighter in suburban America and discussed the achievements of the Chilean Binational Commission.

At the celebration, the Fulbright anniversary publication "Fulbright at Fifty," a collection of stories, letters, reports and photos from alumni and former Board members was unveiled. The publication was a collaborative effort of Fulbrighter

Rodrigo Redondo, a graphic designer who held a Fulbright in 2005, and the writer and poet Rodrigo Rojas, who had a Fulbright in 2001.

BULGARIA

The 25th meeting of the Fulbright Executive Directors of Europe took place in Sofia, Bulgaria, in April 2005. Bulgarian-American Fulbright Commission Executive Director Julia Stefanova and her staff hosted the event that included a member of the Fulbright Board, several Public Affairs and Cultural Affairs Officers, the Directors of the Fulbright Offices in Russia and Ukraine, representatives of cooperating agencies and officials from the State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Speakers at the opening plenary included FSB Member Shirley M. Green and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Academic Programs Thomas Farrell. Welcoming remarks were offered by the Chair of the Executive Committee, Lonnie Johnson, as well as the Chargé d'Affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Sofia and the Chairman of the Bulgarian-American Fulbright Commission. Session topics included recruiting for diversity, the dynamics of EU enlargement, and enhancing the Fulbright experience. (See *Board Travel Section of this Report*.)

FULBRIGHT STUDENTS AND THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Five international Fulbright Students and several former NFL players joined the National Football League and Scholastic Corporation to announce the "One World: Connecting Communities, Cultures and Classrooms" Program in Boston, Massachusetts in September 2004. The program is designed to help 4th and 5th -grade educators teach the importance of diversity. Part of a \$10 million fund established by the NFL and NFL Players Association (NFLPA) to respond to community needs in the days following September 11, 2001 made the program possible. Fulbrighters from Iraq, South Africa, Costa Rica, Peru and the Philippines joined pro football Hall-of-Famer Marcus Allen, former Steelers defensive back Rod Woodson, former Patriots wide receiver Cedric Jones and linebacker Ed Reynolds to participate in several program lessons and activities with Boston-area students in the Citizen Schools Program,

focusing on ethnic differences and cultural understanding. Iraqi Fulbright Student Barakat Jassem led a discussion about how to avoid stereotyping.

U.S. AND SLOVAK REPUBLIC SIGN NEW FULBRIGHT AGREEMENT

Chargé d'Affaires of the U.S. Embassy Scott Thayer and Minister of Education of the Slovak Republic Martin Fronc signed a new Fulbright agreement on March 22, 2005 in Bratislava. This agreement builds on the accord signed in 1994 that established the J. William Fulbright Commission for Educational Exchange in Slovakia. Since that time, some 300 Slovak and American scholars, students and teachers have participated in the exchange program.



Shaking hands after signing the U.S.-Slovak Fulbright Agreement are, from left, Scott N. Thayer, Chargé d'Affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Bratislava and Martin Fronc, Minister of Education of the Slovak Republic.



Fulbright Student Barakat Jassem of Iraq (holding microphone) speaks to young U.S. students during the launch of the NFL program "One World: Connecting Communities, Cultures and Classrooms" in Boston. Former NFL players Rod Woodson (on the far left) and Marcus Allen (on the right) join Jassem.

FULBRIGHT PROGRAM UPDATES

THE FULBRIGHT STUDENT PROGRAM: FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING ASSISTANTS

The Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program is a grant opportunity for foreign teachers of English to refine their teaching skills, increase their English language proficiency, and extend their knowledge of U.S. cultures and customs while strengthening instruction of critical foreign languages at U.S. colleges and universities. While FLTA has been greatly expanded in the past three years, it has been an integral part of the Fulbright Student Program for decades.

The Program has a significant multiplier effect in the U.S. and in the home countries of the FLTA Fellows. U.S. universities benefit from the presence of native speakers of foreign languages on their campuses and the Fellows and U.S. students have the unique opportunity to learn about each other's cultures and customs, building mutual understanding between the U.S. and other countries. As a result of the program, FLTA alumni return to their home countries with a higher proficiency in English, and are able to speak from personal experience about the United States, its values, and its people.

An example of one country's experience with the FLTA Program comes from Spain, where in 2001, the Commission for Cultural, Educational and

Scientific Exchange Between the United States of America and Spain (Spain's Fulbright Commission) began participation in the FLTA Program. Every year since, more than 100 applicants have vied for the 10 to 12 Fulbright grants available. These applicants all have one or more of the following: teaching experience, training in the teaching of English, or training in the teaching of Spanish as a foreign language. American students, who may be unaccustomed to other cultures and who have teaching assistants in their classrooms, benefit from exposure to Spanish language and culture, and when the Teaching Assistants return to Spain, they are resources for their Spanish students about the United States. Several of the Spanish teaching assistants have reported that many of their American students have since visited and studied in Spain. One alumnus of the Program said, *"But what is important for me to convey to people is the mistake we make so many times by letting ourselves be influenced by the recurrent stereotypes, which, in the case of the United States, are never ending. It is curious how, while in the United States, I was very critical of many aspects of the country; now, back home, my point of view has been transformed into a positive one that acknowledges the very many wonderful things that Americans have and can contribute."*



Eighty-three FLTA's from 15 countries are shown at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC in Fall 2004 during the annual FLTA Workshop. The Workshop was designed to help them improve teaching skills, create a network, develop strategies for cross cultural communication, share personal experiences, and discuss community outreach.

Photo Credit: Bill Petros



Students from the Eastern Mennonite University Conflict Transformation Master's Degree Program visit the U.S. Department of State for meetings with officials of the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor.

FULBRIGHT CONFLICT RESOLUTION

In January 2005, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Elizabeth Dugan and other officials of the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) at the Department of State briefed 18 students from Eastern Mennonite University's Conflict Transformation Master's Degree Program on research and reports on human rights and religious freedom in their regions, potentially useful grants and funding opportunities, and on the Department's efforts to promote peace and democracy-building in various regions of the world. The student delegation included two Palestinians, and five students from Lebanon, Israel, Syria, and Morocco participating in ECA's Fulbright Conflict Resolution Program, as well as other Fulbright and non-Fulbright international students from the United Kingdom, Ireland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Rwanda, Kenya and Uganda.

NEW CENTURY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Each year the New Century Scholars (NCS) Program brings together approximately 30 outstanding research scholars and professionals from the U.S. and abroad.

Under the guidance of an appointed Distinguished Scholar Leader, the Scholars engage in collaborative, multidisciplinary examination of a topic of universal

concern and together seek solutions to critical issues affecting all humankind.

The theme for 2004-05 was *Toward Equality: The Global Empowerment of Women Scholars*, led by Distinguished Scholar Leader Carolyn Elliott, a Professor Emerita of Political Science at the University of Vermont. The theme chosen for 2005-06 is *Higher Education in the 21st Century: Global Challenge and National Response*. The Distinguished Scholar Leader for this theme is Philip Altbach, Director of the Center for International Higher Education in the Lynch School of Education at Boston College.

Once the year is completed, many of the Scholars continue to work together on collaborative projects. These "spin-off" activities enable the Scholars to form long-term relationships developed from their initial meetings as part of the New Century Scholars Program.

The following is an example of a New Century Scholars Program spin-off activity:

Richard Mollica, Director of the Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma at Harvard Medical School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, collaborated with other New Century Scholars (Program Year I, 2001-2002) to develop a framework for the role of mental health in the recovery of traumatized nations and communities. As a result of discussions with NCS colleagues and public health experts from over 20 countries at

a meeting in Sarajevo, which was organized by Mollica and the Bosnian Ministry of Health, a plan was created to assemble the Ministries of Health in Rome. The meeting became a reality on December 3, 2004 when, for the first time, the national Ministries of Health of 33 conflict and post-conflict nations gathered in Rome to establish a plan of action for the implementation of a mental health policy for healing populations traumatized by mass violence. The effort was entitled Project 1 Billion, as more than one billion people in over 47 countries have been affected by mass violence, embodied in the experience of war, ethnic conflict, torture and terrorism.

FULBRIGHT TEACHER EXCHANGE

Thirty Mexican student teachers took part in an exchange program in 2005 between community colleges in Atlacomulco, Mexico, and Grossmont Community College, California. The program started under the auspices of the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program in 1999 and has grown. Word spread to other teacher training colleges in Mexico so that by 2003, four colleges were participating in the Grossmont program. The number of student teacher exchanges grew to 22 by 2004 as word spread about the benefits of the U.S. program from previous student teacher trainees once they returned to their schools in Mexico. Most of them graduated from their Mexican institutions with honors. Mr. Peter White, Vice President of Grossmont Community College, El Cajon, California, and Mr. Higinio

Ordonez Suarez, Deputy Master of Atlacomulco Teacher Training College, Atlacomulco, Mexico, began their collaboration when they participated in a short-term administrator exchange program in November-December of 1999 and March-April of 2000. During these exchanges, each work-shadowed the other for six weeks focusing on the teaching of English as a foreign language.

FULBRIGHT-HAYS GROUP PROJECTS ABROAD

The Center for Arabic Study Abroad (CASA), a consortium of 27 American universities, was formed in 1967 and has since provided advanced-level training in Arabic to over 1,350 American graduate and undergraduate students participating in the Group Projects Abroad (GPA) program at the American University in Cairo, Egypt. The U.S. Department of Education has supported CASA through the Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program since its inception. CASA offers instruction in Arabic in summer, academic year, and full-year programs. Most alumni of this Fulbright Program have become professors of Arabic and Middle Eastern Studies, business and professional people, government employees, journalists, and NGO administrators. Under the GPA program CASA also offers a two-to four-month refresher program for American university professors who use Arabic in their teaching and research.

Richard Mollica, Director of the Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma and a Fulbright New Century Scholar, organized Project 1 Billion.

